Statement

Difference in Average All India Retail & Wholesale Prices of Selected Commodities during the first Half of the Year 2009-10 (Rs. Per Kg)

(Rs./per kg.)

Commodity	Range of Difference
Rice	1.70-2.02
Wheat	1.28-1.41
Gram	3.53-4.01
Tur	2.97-4.57
Sugar	1.40-1.74
Groundnut Oil	4.91-6.04
Mustard Oil	4.43-5.29
Vanaspati	3.66-4.25
Potato	1.96-2.64
Onion	2.29-3.18

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Shortfall in production of kharif crop

188. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to shortage of rain in North India, kharif crop particularly rice production, has fallen in the country;

(b) if so, what are the latest kharif crop estimates and how much decline has been recorded;

(c) whether this decline is going to affect food security in the country; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and how Government is going to meet the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per the 1st Advance Estimates released on 3rd November, 2009, production of kharif rice of 2009-10 is estimated at 69.45 million tons, against the estimated production of 84.58 million tons in 2008-09 (4th advance estimates).

(c) and (d) Stock of rice in the Central Pool as on 01.10.2009 was 149.14 lakh tons against the buffer norm of 52 lakh tons and strategic reserve of 20 lakh tons. In the current Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2009-10, 111.58 lakh tons of rice has been procured as on 17.11.2009 against 101.11

lakh tons procured in the corresponding period in KMS 2008-09. At the estimated level of procurement of 260 lakh tonnes of rice (as informed by the Food Corporation of India), the stock of rice in the Central Pool is estimated to be sufficient to meet the current level of requirement of Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare Schemes.

Import of pulses

189. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of pulses has surged during the first six months of the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the quantum of pulses imported by Government and private owned trading agencies during the first six months of the current fiscal year;

(c) the cost at which such pulses were imported and under what conditionalties;

(d) whether import of pulses have any impact on the prices of pulses in the markets in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As per the data provided by DGCIS, during April 2009-September 2009,12.90 lakh tonnes of pulses valued at Rs.3324.97 crore was imported. The quantum of pulses imported by the 4 PSUs *viz.* NAFED, MMTC, STC and PEC was about 3.7 lakh tonnes. The 4 PSUs are authorized by the Government to import pulses under the 15% reimbursement of subsidy scheme.

(d) and (e) The details of the domestic wholesale prices of pulses in Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Wholesale market rates of pulses in major terminal markets from April 09 to Oct. 09

Rates in Rs/Qtl.

Commodity/Month	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai
1	2	3	4
Arhar Whole			
April	2650-3825	3200-3400	3300-3700
May	3900-4050	3880-3900	3300-3700
June	3230-4000	3500-4000	3500-4000